



# Missouri Voter

Volume 70, Issue 3

The League of Women Voters

May/June 2009

## Conference Delivers on Promise

*By Debby Waite Howard and Charlotte King, LWVMO Directors*

*Something for Everyone!* – the theme of State Convention 2009 – delivered with lively debate on programs and positions, thought-provoking speakers, seminars on new projects (Membership Recruitment Initiative, CapWiz, 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Quilt), learning about local Leagues' priorities and activities, summaries of the LWVMO board's portfolios, and the presenting of the Harriett Woods and Lenore Loeb Awards.

About 50 people met in Jefferson City the weekend of May 2-3 to mix and mingle and make decisions about our League's direction for the next two years. Delegates representing our eight local Leagues joined the state board and several observers and guests, including Janice McMillen, our LWVUS liaison, and Anna Mennerick, our new executive director.



The Credentials Committee

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Nancy Copenhaver presided over the Convention in place of President Jo Sapp whose health prevented her from attending. Nancy deftly led us through a full day of discussing and debating the issues before voting on Sunday morning.

Results of Convention business –

- Budgets and pledges were accepted.
- By-law amendment was tabled for clarification.
- Officers and Directors were elected by acclamation.
- The Program for the next two years includes 1) retaining all current program items and positions, and 2) a new study on Early Voting and no-excuse absentee voting.

In the next few weeks, the Guide to State Action will be updated and by the end of June available in print edition – hopefully earlier for the web edition. This book describes the whole state program and contains all of our state positions on which we can take action. Please let the office know if you are interested in having a copy.

Your new state board: Lois Detrick (president), Betty Ann Gilbert (1<sup>st</sup> VP), Maydell Senn (2<sup>nd</sup> VP), Cindy Stephens (secretary), Debby Waite Howard (treasurer) and directors Nancy Copenhaver, Rachel Farr Fitch, Cande Iveson, Charlotte King, Linda McDaniel, Joan Mills, Peg Prendergast, Jo Sapp, and Win Colwill. Elected off-board members are Elaine Blodgett, Lael Von Holt, Sydell Shayer, and Mary Merritt. The nominating committee for the 2011 board election includes Kathleen Boswell (chair), Nelda Steffan, and Laura Worstell.

The LWVMO board will have a retreat in Columbia on July 17. Look for more information about your board and the retreat in the July/August *Missouri Voter*.

For more information about what happened at Convention, talk with your local League delegate/s who attended and read the other articles in this issue of the *Missouri Voter*.



Win Colwill receives Harriett Woods Award from Rachel Farr Fitch, LWVMO Awards Chair.

### [Win Colwill honored with the Harriett Woods Award](#)

Win Colwill, a long-time member of the Columbia-Boone County League of Women Voters, received the Harriett Woods Award for Exemplary Community Service for her ongoing work with energy issues on the local, state, and national levels. Win works with the Columbia/BC League to educate members on energy and environmental issues, to become involved with the city and county governments, and to personally practice good energy conservation. She also is active in Columbia's annual Earth Day.

As a member of the League's state board, Win lobbies the legislature on energy issues, and she recently worked for two years on the League's national Climate Control committee.



Rachel Farr Fitch presents the Lenore Loeb Award to Sedalia/Pettis County LWV members Mary Merritt, Janice Simpson (Sedalia/PC president), and Kathleen Boswell.

### [Sedalia/Pettis County LWV wins the Lenore Loeb Award](#)

The Sedalia/PC League received the Lenore Loeb Sterling Achievement Award for their participation in the Open World Program when they hosted visitors from Russia during the week of our General Election in 2008.

The visit's theme was Accountable Governance, and Sedalia/PC arranged for their company to talk with city, county, and state officials. In addition, the Russian visitors travelled to Kansas City and Jefferson City for sightseeing, spoke to a government class at State Fair Community College, were interviewed on the local radio, wrote an article for a Sedalia newspaper, and prepared an authentic Russian dinner for the Community Café.

## [An Update on Voting Procedures](#)

*By Lael Von Holt, off-board Director*

Wendy Noren, County Clerk of Boone County since 1982, spoke at our Convention luncheon. She is a prolific speaker, recognized on all levels of government for her expertise in elections and voting procedures.

With a firm grasp on her field, Wendy offered our members a wide range of information about early voting, provisional ballots, photo ID, training election judges, computer-savvy University students, the state data base, and election costs.

We learned that provisional ballots have made elections more efficient and less frustrating for certain voters, University students working at the polls have been an asset in using advanced technologies, extensive training of election judges has streamlined the voting process, and electronic voting machines have been a positive addition, overall.

But when it comes to photo ID as a Constitutional requirement, this county clerk says "no." When it comes to multiple elections, single-issue elections for example, this county clerk says it's too costly; consolidation of polls is an option.

This was the second time Wendy has addressed an LWVMO Convention because when Wendy speaks, our League members listen. They enjoy her infectious humor, interspersed in a serious discussion about election procedures. Because she has so much to tell us, we welcome her any time.



Wendy Noren,  
County Clerk of Boone County



Sara Lampe, state representative  
of Missouri's 138<sup>th</sup> District

## [The Power of Women](#)

*By Cande Iveson, LWVMO Director*

Representative Sara Lampe, from Missouri's 138<sup>th</sup> district in the Springfield area, spoke at the Convention Awards Dinner on Saturday night. The theme of her talk was "The Power of Women."

Sara shared stories about three women who made a difference in her life. One was her mother, a school principal, who Sara credits with being her first, best teacher. Her mother taught her to help others and to value public service. She also encouraged her daughter to explore new experiences. Sara recalled this piece of her mother's advice: "Don't stay up for your kids; if there's an emergency you'll need the rest, if not, then you got your sleep."

Another important influence was her elocution teacher whose thoughtful persistence gave Sara the skills to voice her values and an appreciation of the power of words. The third woman gave Sara the opportunity to travel with the USO in 1968, an experience that gave Sara a new perspective on the world.

Although women can influence public policy, Sara noted that Missouri ranks 33<sup>rd</sup> in the number of women in the legislature and has never had a woman governor. All of us can help other women secure public office. We can serve as mentors who educate or involve our friends. Or, we can simply ask a woman to run.

Sara closed by reminding us that "We are the difference between what we are and what we could be."

**Working Together**  
**for**  
**League!**

*By Lois Detrick, LWVMO President*



First, a huge thanks to Jo and the Board for all the hard work they have done in leading the League these past two years. They have been knowledgeable about legislation as well as other issues facing the state and were willing to step up whenever something needed doing. From all of us around the state, thank you!

As I accept this great responsibility to serve as your president for the next two years, four opportunities come to mind.

1. I plan to visit each League, attending a general meeting, a board meeting, or a function you are having, at least once each year. This world may be high tech, but I'm high touch. I want to get to know you as people, not just voices on the phone or writers on the internet, although of necessity much of our relationship will be with those media. Contact me. I want to get to know each league, their strengths and weaknesses. I want to start in September, unless you have fun things going this summer, of course. I'm always up for those.
2. We are beginning the journey of the Membership Recruitment Initiative. This promises such revitalization and power to our Leagues! We know this will entail a lot of work, but the payoff is tremendous with more visibility, increased membership, and a sense of purpose that enriches our community and our own sense of truly making democracy work. I have been impressed at the talent our National organization has acquired to assist us in this endeavor.
3. Mary Wilson's articles every Thursday in the Leaders' Update on the National website are a gold mine of opportunities for us to tap into. Many of the activities suggested there have accompanying grants. I encourage you all to make that great communication part of your weekly reading and inspiration. A \$500 grant to put on a celebration of Constitution Day, full funding to host a team of four from one of the former Soviet Bloc countries, or a grant to assist in taking the census are just a few of the exciting things there to pump new life into your League. If you are not receiving this, go to the National website, [www.lwv.org](http://www.lwv.org), and sign up.
4. We have the opportunity of the decade with our 90th birthday in 2010. The team is just beginning to put together a program, but don't be surprised if those feisty, gutsy women are reincarnated to let us see what it was like to fight for 70 years to give us the right to vote. We have a fantastic legacy. Come to experience it.

You have elected a stellar board. Each of these women brings a tremendous amount of talent and experience they are willing to share to make the League of Women Voters of Missouri a vital organization. But the leaders can't do it all. Every leader has to have those persons to lead. When you read your *Missouri Voter* and see something happening that is down your alley, please don't wait to be asked to become a part of it. I have no idea what hidden, or even not so hidden, talents you have. Volunteer your ideas and/or your time. Let us know what you would like to see happen at the state level or how we can help you. That's what we're here for.

Thank you for the confidence you have placed in me to lead you these next two years. I'll do my best to fulfill this trust. And I must also thank my husband who, although he doesn't like being left alone while I traipse around the state, is willing to support me in this.

Know that it is great to be part of an organization where hands-on work to safeguard democracy leads to civic improvement.



*Scenes from Convention*



From the Moberly/Randolph County League:  
Janie Riley, president and delegate,  
with Nancy Copenhaver who also served  
as 2007-2009 LWVMO 1st VP.



Delegates from SEMO LWV: Mary Ellen Sharp,  
Ada Cruce, and Nelda Steffen.



Setting up the St. Louis LWV display table: Janice Dahl,  
Anna Mennerick, and Doris Buzzell.

## [Notes & Reminders](#)

**Staying In Touch.** Have a question? Need some help? LWVMO has a new email address: [league@lwvmissouri.org](mailto:league@lwvmissouri.org). Just click and Anna or Julie will get right back to you.

**Virtual Council.** Instead of going to Washington, D.C., for National Council this summer, Council is coming to us via computer hookup on June 13. Although only our delegates may vote, all members are welcome to watch and learn more about League. For exact times and locations, please contact your local League president or the LWV office at 314-961-6869 or [league@lwvmissouri.org](mailto:league@lwvmissouri.org).

**Missouri Voter Handbook.** This important handbook is currently being updated and printed. When completed in July, a newly revised handbook will be sent to each local League. We're looking forward to marketing these important books to LWV members, schools, and other interested individuals. The price will remain the same as in previous years: \$12.50 with a three-ring binder cover; \$10 for the insert only. Plan now to purchase your revised Missouri Voter Handbooks this summer.

**2010 Calendars.** The LWV calendars for 2010 will be ready to ship in mid-June. Good news - the price remains the same as last year. So get your orders in early. A copy of the order form is included in this issue of the *Missouri Voter*.

**Share Your Pride.** Are you a Suffragist, Flapper, or a Capitol Woman? Show the world your pride in the League by wearing one (or all) of the pins or using the Suffragist note cards. They also make great gifts. All these items are available for purchase with the order form included with this newsletter or online at our website: [lwvmissouri.org](http://lwvmissouri.org). Buy today and share your LWV pride!

**90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Bash.** Mark your calendars now! On April 24, 2010, we will celebrate the founding of LWV 90 years ago in St. Louis. At State Convention, it was suggested that if each member donated \$90, we would have more than enough money for the party and could give a big boost to our state coffers. However, don't get concerned about the amount – any and all donations are welcome, from \$.90 to \$90,000. For more information, please contact Debby Waite Howard at [league@lwvmissouri.org](mailto:league@lwvmissouri.org).

**90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Quilts.** We are making two quilts to celebrate LWV's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. Members and non-members are putting the blocks together now and will return them by July 4 for setting together. One quilt will be raffled to the Missouri members and presented at our Birthday Bash. The other quilt will be raffled at National Convention. These quilts will honor 16 women who have been active in achieving women's rights, and a booklet with brief bios will accompany each quilt. Because the two quilts will be slightly different, you may want to buy raffle tickets for each. LWVMO is asking all members to help sell raffle tickets – these will be ready for distribution at Fall Conference, November 14, in Sedalia. We also hope to have one quilt ready by then, so you can see the finished product.

**LWV – US!** That's the theme of the 2008-2010 LWVUS Nominating Committee. It means that the leadership of the LWV is us – League members who are committed to insuring the continued success of our organization. The LWVUS Nominating Committee is asking members nationwide to nominate candidates for the LWVUS Board or next Nominating Committee. You can even nominate yourself! For more information, join the Nominating Committee discussion list on the LWVUS web site or email the committee at [nominatingcommittee@lwv.org](mailto:nominatingcommittee@lwv.org).

## [Calendar](#)

June 13 – Virtual Council  
July 17 – LWVMO Board Retreat in Columbia  
Nov. 13 – LWVMO Board meeting in Sedalia  
Nov. 14 – Fall Council in Sedalia  
April 24 (2010) – LWV 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration

## Order Form for LWV pins and note cards

Item	Quantity	Unit Price	Total
Suffragist Pin		10.00 ea	
Flapper Pin		5.00 ea	
Capitol Woman		5.00 ea	
LWV Lapel Pin		7.95 ea	
Suffragist Note Cards - 5 per pack		3.50 pack	

Above prices include shipping & handling charges.

Orders may be placed on line, by phone, FAX, or mail.  
 Credit Card payments accepted through PayPal.

Mail: League of Women Voters of Missouri  
 8706 Manchester Road, St. Louis, MO 63144-2733  
 Phone: 314-961-6869 FAX: 314-961-8393  
 email: [league@lwvmissouri.org](mailto:league@lwvmissouri.org)

Make checks payable to: LWVMO

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

### *Raise Funds and Have Fun Traveling*

The LWVMO has made arrangements with Travel Concepts International to encourage groups to book travel through their company. For each League member and their guests who book travel plans with Travel Concepts, the company will pay \$50, which will be split between LWVMO and the local League. You can call them at 1-800-762-4216 or navigate their website at [www.tcitravel.com](http://www.tcitravel.com). Plans can be made on the website by destination or travel dates.

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# League of Women Voters 2010 Calendars

## Wholesale Group Sales

- 10 to 100 Calendars, the cost is \$4.50 plus actual cost of shipping.
- Orders over 100 Calendars, the cost is \$4.00 each plus shipping.

## Individual Calendar Sales

1 – 9 Calendars – \$5 each plus shipping charges as listed below; **payment must accompany orders.**

- 1        \$ 5.00 +    \$ 2.50 =        \$ 7.50
- 2        10.00 +     4.00 =        14.00
- 3        15.00 +     4.25 =        19.25
- 4        20.00 +     5.00 =        25.00
- 5-7      5.00 each + 7.50 shipping
- 8-9      5.00 each + 10.00 shipping
- 

Complete the order form below and mail to:

Calendars  
League of Women Voters  
8706 Manchester Road, Suite 104, St. Louis, MO 63144

or FAX to: 1-314-961-8393    or Email to: [league@lwvmissouri.org](mailto:league@lwvmissouri.org)

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Payment: Check \_\_\_\_\_ Master Card \_\_\_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_\_\_ No. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ calendars @ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ each plus shipping \$ \_\_\_\_\_ = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name of person placing order \_\_\_\_\_

League or organization (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Ship to: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_